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**Human Rights Council  
21<sup>th</sup> Session  
Universal Periodic Review of Lesotho**

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Lesotho to the second cycle of the UPR.

We were pleased to learn of the many positive developments in the human rights situation in the country, not only through the comprehensive national report, but also through other sources such as the UN and civil society organizations. The promotion of freedom of expression, as well as actions aimed at making Lesotho a more equitable society, through the creation of special mechanisms, such as the Office of the Ombudsman, and an enabling environment for the defense of the rights of groups such as women and children in situations of vulnerability, and LGBT individuals are noteworthy.

Nonetheless, there is still room for improvement with regard to fully respecting the human rights of the above-mentioned groups.

Brazil would, therefore, like to make the following recommendations to Lesotho:

- I- continue to align its national laws, specially the subconstitutional legislation and customary legal practices, with its international human rights obligations, particularly in the field of gender equality and prevention of violence against women, where special programs and policies would be highly welcomed;
  
- II- take action towards more pervasive measures to prevent violations of the rights of children through, inter alia, training professionals such as teachers, doctors and social workers to identify potential situations of abuse and report them to the authorities.

I thank you, Mr. President.